IN THE CLAIMS:

1 - 9 (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) A ceiling actuator for an up-and-over sectional door, the actuator comprising:

a guide profile;

a sliding block ~~or carriage~~ moving longitudinally along said guide profile and with a door attachment for connection to the up-and-over sectional door to be controlled;

a ~~body or~~ casing positioned at one end of said guide profile;

an electrical gear motor housed in said ~~body or~~ casing;

a sprocket driven by said electrical gear motor;

a transmission chain engaged with said sprocket and connected to said sliding block ~~or carriage~~ to cause the alternative direction movements of said sliding block ~~or carriage~~ corresponding to the opening and closing movements of the up-and-over sectional door by means of movement of said transmission chain, said transmission chain having an active section with one end attached to said sliding block ~~or carriage~~ turning on said sprocket driven by said gear motor and a passive section returning in said guide profile in a direction parallel to the movement of said sliding block ~~or carriage~~;

an internal side chain guide fixture associated with said sprocket and positioned inside a route of said active and passive sections of said chain; and

an external chain guide fixture associated with said sprocket and positioned outside a

route of said active and passive sections of said chain, said internal side chain guide fixture and said external chain guide fixture cooperating for guiding and restraining movement of said chain adjacent to said sprocket, said internal side chain guide fixture and said external chain guide fixture being separated and forming between them a guide passage in which the adjacent parts of said chain are housed and pass around said sprocket, the width of said guide passage being compatible with the dimensions of links of said chain and forming a rectilinear tract extending tangentially to said sprocket for guiding said active section of said chain connected to said sliding block, followed by an intermediate circular part concentric to said sprocket followed by a curvilinear tract which curves in a direction opposite a curve of said circular part and guides said chain toward said rectilinear tract up to a parallel tract section guiding said chain parallel to said rectilinear tract for guiding said passive section whereby said internal side chain guide fixture and said external chain guide fixture form an obligatory passage for guided passage of said chain configured to direct said active section of said chain connected to said sliding block ~~or carriage~~ into and out of engagement with said sprocket at a tangent to said sprocket and to guidingly move said passive section of said chain closer to and parallel with said active section in a region adjacent to said sprocket.

11. (Currently Amended) A ceiling actuator according to claim 10, further comprising a sprocket supporting body housing said sprocket, wherein said external and internal guide elements are ~~connected to or placed in~~ associated with said supporting body, and wherein along at least one part of internal sides of said rectilinear and curvilinear tracts of said guide passage,

protrusions are provided which form between them angled side walls to provide a tapered [[a]] passage region at a level with rollers of the chain of the chain, the passage region having a width compatible with the dimensions of the rollers of the chain.

12. (Currently Amended) A ceiling actuator according to claim 11, wherein said ~~protrusions are made in the~~ sprocket supporting body has protrusions.

13. (Currently Amended) A ceiling actuator for an up-and-over sectional door, the actuator comprising:

a guide profile;

a ~~sliding block or~~ carriage moving longitudinally along the guide profile and with a door attachment for connection to the up-and-over sectional door to be controlled;

an electrical gear motor;

a sprocket driven by said electrical gear motor;

a transmission chain with rollers connected by links, the rollers being engaged with said sprocket and said chain being connected to said ~~sliding block or~~ carriage to cause the alternative direction movements of the ~~sliding block or~~ carriage corresponding to the opening and closing movements of the door by means of movement of said transmission chain, said transmission chain having an active section extending from one side of said sprocket along said guide profile to said ~~sliding block or~~ carriage and a passive section returning to another side of said sprocket along said guide profile in a direction parallel to a movement of said ~~sliding block or~~ carriage;

an internal side chain guide fixture associated with said sprocket and positioned inside a route of the active and passive sections of the chain; and

an external chain guide fixture associated with said sprocket and positioned outside a route of the active and passive sections of the chain, said internal side chain guide fixture and said external chain guide fixture cooperating to form therebetween a guide passage in which the adjacent parts of the chain are housed and pass around said sprocket, the width of said guide passage being compatible with the dimensions of links of said chain, said guide passage including a rectilinear tract extending tangentially to said sprocket for guiding said active section of said chain adjacent to said sprocket and into engagement with said sprocket an intermediate circular tract concentric to said sprocket guiding said chain from said rectilinear tract around said sprocket and a curvilinear tract which curves in a direction opposite a curve of said circular part and guides the chain from said intermediate circular tract toward said rectilinear tract up to a parallel tract section guiding said passive section of said chain parallel to said rectilinear tract to said guide profile whereby said internal side chain guide fixture and said external chain guide fixture form an obligatory passage for guided passage of the chain configured to direct the active section of the chain into and out of engagement with said sprocket at a tangent to said sprocket and to guidingly move the passive section of the chain closer to and parallel with said active section in a region adjacent to said sprocket.

14. (Previously Presented) A ceiling actuator according to claim 13, further comprising a sprocket supporting body housing the sprocket, wherein said external and internal guide

elements are connected to or placed in said supporting body, and wherein along at least one part of the internal sides of the rectilinear and curvilinear tracts of said guide passage, protrusions are provided at a level with rollers of the chain of the chain, the passage region having a width compatible with the dimensions of the rollers of the chain.

15. (Previously Presented) A ceiling actuator according to claim 11, wherein said protrusions are made in the sprocket supporting body.